

Claims

- [c1] A vehicular mirror system comprising:
- a mirror housing enclosing a mounting bracket having a proximal end and a distal end and adapted to be mounted to a vehicle;
 - an outwardly-facing reflective element;
 - a tilt actuator assembly provided with the mounting bracket and mounting the reflective element and comprising an actuator for adjusting the tilt of the reflective element;
 - a light source mounted within the mirror housing; and
 - wherein the mirror housing has a translucent portion to transmit light from the light source to the exterior of the mirror housing.
- [c2] The vehicular mirror system of claim 1 wherein the light source comprises at least one incandescent light bulb.
- [c3] The vehicular mirror system of claim 1 wherein the light source comprises at least one light emitting diode.
- [c4] The vehicular mirror system of claim 1 wherein the light source is mounted to the mounting bracket.

- [c5] The vehicular mirror system of claim 1 wherein the light source is mounted to the actuator.
- [c6] The vehicular mirror system of claim 1 wherein the mirror housing comprises at least one optic region having different light transmission properties than the remainder of the mirror housing.
- [c7] The vehicular mirror system of claim 6 and further comprising a light pipe for directing the light from the light source to the at least one optic region.
- [c8] The vehicular mirror system of claim 1 and further comprising a reflective element carrier for supporting the reflective element, wherein the reflective element carrier comprises an area having a reflective surface adapted to reflect light from the light source.
- [c9] The vehicular mirror system of claim 8 wherein the reflective surface is also adapted to transmit a portion of the light from the light source.
- [c10] The vehicular mirror system of claim 9 wherein the area having the reflective surface is adapted to reflect 90% of the light from the light source and transmit 10% of the light from the light source.
- [c11] The vehicular mirror system of claim 1 wherein the light

source comprises a directional light element adapted to focus light in a preselected direction.

[c12] The vehicular mirror system of claim 11 wherein the directional light element is mounted to the distal end of the mounting bracket.

[c13] A combination motor vehicle and vehicular mirror system comprising:

a motor vehicle;

a mirror housing mounted on the motor vehicle, said mirror housing enclosing a mounting bracket having a proximal end and a distal end;

an outwardly-facing reflective element;

a tilt actuator assembly provided with the mounting bracket and mounting the reflective element and comprising an actuator for adjusting the position of the reflective element;

a light source mounted within the mirror housing; and

wherein the mirror housing has a translucent portion to transmit light from the light source to the exterior of the mirror housing.

[c14] The combination motor vehicle and vehicular mirror system of claim 13 wherein the light source comprises at least one incandescent light bulb.

- [c15] The combination motor vehicle and vehicular mirror system of claim 13 wherein the light source comprises at least one light emitting diode.
- [c16] The combination motor vehicle and vehicular mirror system of claim 13 wherein the light source is mounted to the mounting bracket.
- [c17] The combination motor vehicle and vehicular mirror system of claim 13 wherein the light source is mounted to the actuator.
- [c18] The combination motor vehicle and vehicular mirror system of claim 13 wherein the mirror housing comprises at least one optic region having different light transmission properties than the remainder of the mirror housing.
- [c19] The combination motor vehicle and vehicular mirror system of claim 18 and further comprising a light pipe for directing the light from the light source to the at least one optic region.
- [c20] The combination motor vehicle and vehicular mirror system of claim 13 and further comprising a reflective element carrier for supporting the reflective element, wherein the reflective element carrier comprises an area having a reflective surface adapted to reflect light from the light source.

- [c21] The combination motor vehicle and vehicular mirror system of claim 20 wherein the reflective surface is also adapted to transmit a portion of the light from the light source.
- [c22] The combination motor vehicle and vehicular mirror system of claim 21 wherein the area having the reflective surface is adapted to reflect 90% of the light from the light source and transmit 10% of the light from the light source.
- [c23] The combination motor vehicle and vehicular mirror system of claim 13 wherein the light source comprises a directional light element adapted to focus light in a preselected direction.
- [c24] The combination motor vehicle and vehicular mirror system of claim 23 wherein the directional light element is mounted to the distal end of the mounting bracket.